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PALESTINE REFUGEE PROBLEM:

Development Projects in Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, and Transjordan and estimated Costs of Implementing Refugee Settlement.

This paper was prepared by the Division of Research for Near East and Africa of the Office of Intelligence Research, Department of State. On the basis of existing surveys of those development projects which appear capable of utilization for refugee settlement, the paper concludes that, despite Iraq's significant potential for an expanded population, its development for this purpose would necessitate extensive capital works and would involve settlement in an unfamiliar socio-economic atmosphere; that Syria presents the next largest potential for settlement of significant numbers and that integrated Syro-Lebanese economic development would offer possibilities for settlement of both rural and urban type refugees; that Arab Palestine and Transjordan could accommodate only limited numbers of refugees.

Proceeding from technical analyses of the various irrigation and land development schemes, the paper estimates the probable cost of settlement on a per capita basis at $316, plus allowances for administrative costs, costs of transporting refugees to settlement areas, and expansion of government services to such areas.

This estimate is based solely upon technical considerations, and does not represent an approved United States Government program or financial commitment.

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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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